

REMARKS

To remove issues from appeal, this Amendment amends claim 9 from dependent form to independent form. Claim 9 has been indicated as being allowable by the Examiner. *See* Examiners Answer at 3.

Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested. *See* MPEP § 1207 (8<sup>th</sup> ed., Rev. 1) at 1200-15 ("To expedite the resolution of cases under final rejection, an amendment filed at any time after final rejection, but before jurisdiction has passed to the Board (see MPEP § 1210), may be entered upon or after filing of an appeal brief provided that the amendment conforms to the requirements of 37 CFR 1.116.").

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension of time fees, and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (MCT.0004C1US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*May 7, 2004*



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